

REMARKS

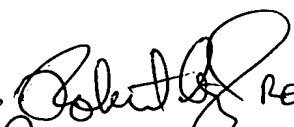
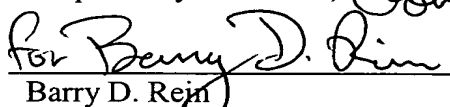
Claims 1-33 are canceled, and new claims 34-44 added. This preliminary amendment is fully supported by the specification and no new matter is added.

None of the references cited by the Examiner in the parent application disclose, *inter alia*, a sensor diode or similar means, as required by claims 34-39, 41-42, and 44, that detects one or more voltage drops across the main contacts of a control relay, where each such voltage drop corresponds to a transient, arc, or ground fault that causes fault currents to pass through the main contacts. Furthermore, none of the cited references disclose, *inter alia*, a time delay circuit, as required by claims 36, 40, and 43, that isolates the sensor circuit from detecting a fault condition until after a predetermined time period, e.g., after steady-state line current has been established.

Any fee necessary is believed to be paid by the authorization contained in the fee transmittal sheet filed herewith; please charge any fee deemed necessary, including any fees for response time extensions deemed necessary, or credit any overpayment to Pennie & Edmonds, L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable disposition is respectfully requested.

Date November 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted, 

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